

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of a patient, the device comprising:
 - a) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;
 - b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck;
 - c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the third substrate contacts the patient's chest; and
 - d) ~~The device as recited in claim 1~~ further comprising one or more means for removably securing the device to a backboard.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~The device as recited in claim 1~~ A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of a patient, the device comprising:
 - a) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;
 - b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck and wherein the second substrate defines an aperture with a reversible closure adapted to receive a tracheal tube imbedded in the patient without contacting the tracheal tube[.]); and
 - c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the third substrate contacts the patient's chest.
4. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[1]] 2 wherein the first substrate defines an aperture to facilitate access to the patient's cervical spine area.

1 5. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[1]] 2 wherein the first
2 substrate, the second substrate and the third substrate are integrally molded to
3 each other.

1 6. (Currently Amended) ~~The device as recited in claim 1 further comprising~~ A device
2 to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of a patient, the device comprising:
3 a) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;
4 b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
5 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck;
6 c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
7 third substrate contacts the patient's chest; and
8 d) a fourth substrate adapted to contact the top of the head and removably
9 attached to the first substrate and the second substrate.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[1]] 2 wherein the first
2 substrate, the second substrate and the third substrate are transparent.

1 8. (Currently Amended) ~~The device as recited in claim 1~~ A device to immobilize the
2 head, neck and upper torso of a patient, the device comprising:
3 a) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head wherein said
4 first substrate is in slidable communication with a pliable material adapted
5 to contact an occipital skull region of the patient[[.]];
6 b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
7 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck; and
8 c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
9 third substrate contacts the patient's chest.

- 1 9. (Currently Amended) ~~The device as recited in claim 1 further comprising~~ A device
2 to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of a patient, the device comprising:
3 a) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;
4 b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
5 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck;
6 c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
7 third substrate contacts the patient's chest; and
8 d) an arcuate-shaped substrate in pivotal communication with said second
9 substrate, whereby the arcuate-shaped substrate is adapted to receive the
10 patient's chin.
- 1 10. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[1]] 2 wherein said first
2 substrate allows visual inspection of the patient's ears.
- 1 11. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[1]] 2 wherein said third
2 substrate extends at least as low as the patient's second rib.
- 1 12. (Original) The device as recited in claim 2 wherein the securing means
2 comprises an elongated substrate having a first end attached to the first
3 substrate of the device and a second end adapted to be removably fastened to
4 the backboard.
- 1 13. (Original) The device as recited in claim 12 wherein the second end terminates in
2 a geometric shape that is matingly received by a surface supported by the
3 backboard.
- 1 14. (Original) The device as recited in claim 13 wherein the surface is removably
2 attached to the backboard.

- 1 15. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[1]] 2 wherein at least one
2 substrate comprises cushioning materials.
- 1 16. (Currently Amended) ~~The device as recited in claim 1~~ A device to immobilize the
2 head, neck and upper torso of a patient, the device comprising:
3 a) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;
4 b) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
5 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck;
6 c) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
7 third substrate contacts the patient's chest;
8 wherein at least one substrate comprises one or more tubes.
- 1 17. (Original) The device as recited in claim 9 wherein said arcuate substrate defines
2 an angle with respect to the second substrate and wherein the device further
3 comprises means to adjust said angle.
- 1 18. (Original) The device as recited in claim 9 wherein said arcuate substrate defines
2 a distance with respect to the first substrate and wherein the device further
3 comprises means to adjust said distance.
- 1 19. (Original) A device for simultaneously immobilizing a person's skull, cervical
2 vertebrae, and mandible, the device comprising:
3 a) a first substrate which extends from an occipital region of the skull to the
4 first thoracic vertebrae of the person;
5 b) a second substrate communicating with the first substrate and extending
6 in a direction anterior to the person, whereby the second substrate
7 encircles the neck of the person;
8 c) a means for immobilizing the first and second substrates to a backboard.

- 1 20. (Original) The device as recited in claim 19 wherein the second substrate defines
2 an aperture having a removable continuous periphery.